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1. The lack of ethylene oxide has become one of the severest bottlenecks in Czechoslovakia's chemical industry. A strict embargo has reduced the supply to a small amount imported from Switzerland, which prefers to export pharmaceutical derivatives of ethylene oxide. The Swiss firms of Sandoz in Basel and CIS-Listal, sister firm of CIS Listal Servo at Delden in Holland, have delivered to Czechoslovakia mono-, di-, and tri-ethanolamine, products made by the use of ethylene oxide.
2. Ethylene oxide is the basic raw material for production of synthetics necessary for pharmaceuticals, cosmetics, explosives, artificial waxes, textiles, and leather. To relieve the shortage, Czechoslovakia has introduced production of ethylene oxide at Rybitvi (O 51/M 69). It is produced on laboratory scale, and is therefore uneconomical; the yield amounts to about 500 kg per week, far from adequate for industrial demands.

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